



Newsletter

Week 1 Term 3

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday 23 July	Year 1 Assembly - Link to be provided
Thursday 29 July	Year 5 Learning Journey 9:00am - 10:30am
Friday 20 August	Belconnen Regional Athletics Selected Students

Medical Notes - Please update medical notes and medication with Front Office

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome back

I hope you have had a chance to catch up with your children over the last fortnight! I'd also like to welcome the families who have joined us this week and look forward to supporting and extending your children over the years we will be working in partnership together.

Staffing changes

Jake Kuzma has joined us this week, replacing Amy Malusa (nee Seymour) on Year Four. We are really excited to have Jake join us as he was an intern teacher with us earlier in the year! I know you will join me in welcoming Jake to the school and, for the first time in my 10.5 years here, we have an all-male team!

Tony Merritt is going on leave for the rest of the year. His last day will be next Friday (23rd July). He and his family have a property in northern NSW and are looking forward to spending time together in warmer and sunnier climes! Tony has been a wonderful Executive Teacher for the last 5 years he has been here. We hope he returns but we understand this temporary move might be the catalyst for a longer term sea-change. He has a long repertoire of 'dad jokes' and his sense of humour and warmth has really helped him connect with our children. I know many of our children are used to seeing him so he can fix their IT issues and this will be taken over by Penny Day who also has excellent skills in this area. We have advertised for a temporary replacement and hope this can be filled within a week or two of Tony's departure. I know you will join with me in wishing Tony and his family every happiness on their new adventure. Why he wanted to move further away from his beloved Richmond Tigers, we're not sure but maybe (and others are making me write this!) it's because they are not doing so well this year...

A big term ahead!

Over the next few weeks we will be finalising the Chief Minister's Reading Challenge and our book-swap fundraiser for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation. We are still planning on going ahead with our concerts with parents in attendance, the Father's Day stalls and the Preschool Fun Day. The concerts for each year level will take place after school in Week 6 and the following week Exhibition commences for the Year Sixes. We are also planning for our Year Six events such as the French Afternoon Tea, Dinner Disco and Graduation. We are commencing our plans for Term Four with our Brilliant Writers Assembly and Miles Franklin Day celebrations. Discussions are also taking place with the P&C on how we might be able to run the Fete, Music Scheme Christmas Festival and the whole school Fun Day. All of these are logistical challenges but we don't want the children to miss out if we can help it!

Reminders for the semester (this is not an exhaustive list or in order of importance!)

- We're keeping our fingers crossed that Covid doesn't unduly affect any of the planned events above. Please continue to practise social distancing and use the Check In CBR app whenever you are on school grounds- we have placed a number in windows around the school to help you.
- Please remember to read the newsletter- it has important information for you
- Please be mindful of your car park speed, where and how you park or stop to drop off or pick up children- these should only be in designated spaces
- Please be mindful of how you approach or speak to other parents or their children, especially if it is *not* about organising a play date etc. Please remember this quote- *communication isn't what you say, it is what the other person hears*. Respectful relationships for all members in our community is a must
- Please remember your child needs to be in school uniform. Uniforms can be purchased from the canteen uniform shop either new or second-hand. For excursions, children should only be in uniform
- If your family is experiencing financial hardship, please speak to me about uniforms, book-packs, excursions etc. Please understand we cannot cover everything fully all of the time but will always do our best.
- Dogs are not allowed on school grounds while children are present. Please secure them to a tree on the school boundary if necessary
- All staff are mandatory reporters- we have to do this when required as it's the law but I will not confirm or deny if a report has been made
- When there is a disagreement between children I generally find the truth is somewhere between the two of them
- If you keep volunteering in the school (and we will love you to do so!) please apply for a Working with Vulnerable People card if you haven't a current one. They are free but a requirement
- If you have a question about your child's education, please speak to their teacher in the first instance. If you need further clarification or assistance then please speak to their Executive teacher, Georgina or me
- If there is an emergency in the school (unlikely as it is, it can still happen) please do not come to the school. Our priority is to maintain the safety and welfare of our children and in those instances experience shows one parent coming to collect their child can raise anxiety levels in dozens more as to why their parent hasn't come
- Balance attendance with health and provide notes, emails or phone calls if children are away please. However, again this year, it is important that if children are showing any signs of a cold they are to stay home. If they come into school, we will call parents to collect them. The 'new normal' has to continue I'm afraid...

It might seem that what I have said above is not positive but I deal with a range of important issues in our school and I find gentle reminders of the above help set the tone for a harmonious community!

IB Learner Profiles

Congratulations to the following students who will be receiving IB Learner Profile certificates on Friday 23 July. Well done!

Classes	Students		
K Mathewson	Pearl T-Q	Henry B	
K Morris	Rosemary W	Kabeesh B	Akmal R
K Stewart	Yaseen E	Josef L	
1 Birch	Faizeen A	Harry C	Abby F
1 Prunster	Armann D	Stella H	Issac R
2 Witherdin	Maya R	Tanisha P	Darcy K
2 Roberts	Zak M	Sebastian S	Charlotte C
2 Hepple	Zach S	Amelia E	Asher L
3 Geddes	Salam Q	Suvi O	Teoman D
3 Bullock	Abigail B	Evie L	Leo T
3 Nuttall	Faseeh H	Brielle G	
4 Fletcher	Otis M	Javier Z.	
4 Holland	Amelia G	Zara M	
5 Dykes	William J	Andrew Q	
5 Lehtsalu	Alex M	Ashton S	
6 Brennan	Latoya G-W	Rubin H	Abbey C
6 Kragh	Jack E	Aishah S	
6 Aston	Isaac P	Makayla B	Haila R

Specialists

PE

The focus in PE over the second semester will be on fair play, game strategies and sportsmanship. The central idea for these units of inquiry from kindergarten through year six will revolve around an understanding that knowing and following game rules and strategies impacts success and enjoyment for the participants. These 'Fair Play' PYP units will include:

- An inquiry into the role of cooperation in organised games.
- An inquiry into why it is important to follow game rules.
- An inquiry into how to solve movement challenges involved in a game

We will still continue to develop physical skills and fitness throughout the semester as well. You can support your child over the second semester by practising good sportsmanship when playing with your child whether it is a board game or a physical activity or sport. When watching sports with your child you can point out strategies that support success as well as the sportsmanship aspects. We will play a variety of nontraditional games in PE with these aims in mind. Team games and sports are all about learning to participate in something bigger than themselves.



Art with Jessica Clarke and Lisa McGruer

Art is back again this term and students will attend one lesson a week starting in week 1. This term Mrs Clarke and Ms McGruer will be teaching the classes. Here is a rundown of what each year level will be working on over the coming weeks:



Kindergarten

Our current Unit Of Inquiry is Where we are in place and time. We will be exploring the concept of identity through creating our own self portraits. We will be learning all about the different features of a face and what makes us all special and unique.

Year 1

Our current Unit Of Inquiry is Where We are in place and time. We are exploring the concept of observations. We have been doing observational drawings of items we have found in our school environment and learning about drawing details, how to do shading and how to draw objects from different perspectives.

Year 2

In the first two weeks of Term 3 we will be finishing up our Yoli Manzo inspired negative and positive space mixed media artworks for Where we are in place and time. We are then moving onto Sharing the Plant where we will be exploring the concept of sustainability with an emphasis on the ocean. We will be creating our own colorful underwater artworks and fish sculptures using a variety of different materials.

Year 3

In the first two weeks of this term, Year 3 will be finishing up their Fi Wilkie inspired Australian Wildflower Collage. Students have been working hard painting colours and textures on paper which are now being cut out and assembled in their flower design. Our next unit of work for How the World Works will be exploring the properties of clay and creating Rengetsu inspired clay pots.

Year 4

This term Year 4 will be focusing on Fauvism art for How We Express Ourselves. Students will create a self portrait in their own style and explore complementary colours when painting with acrylic paint. We are then moving onto How We Organise Ourselves where we will explore the creative and organised processes of Kandinsky's work and how artists convey order and chaos in an artwork.

Year 5

This term Year 5 will be focusing on how artists use angles to show perspective and drawing 3D objects to create a streetscape artwork for How The World Works. Students will also be exploring clay and will create a Georgia O'Keeffe inspired flower sculpture for the unit How We Organise Ourselves.

Year 6

In the first two weeks of this term, Year 6 will be finishing up their James Marshall (Dalek) inspired abstract patterned artwork that uses shapes, colours, forms and gestural marks for the unit Who We Are. Students will also be exploring text based artworks that communicate, provoke and engage an audience for the unit Sharing the Planet.



Students Artwork from Term 2



Year 2 English as an Additional Language or Dialect News

The Year 2 EAL/D students have been investigating forces in their How the world works Unit of Inquiry. They have conducted several experiments and observed how a push or a pull affects how an object moves or changes shape. In the following experiment the students were learning about the domino effect. Here were some of their experiment observations:

When you push the domino, it will go fast.

There is potential with the dominoes. It uses forces.

It makes a chain reaction.



ICAS

We will once again be offering the opportunity during 2021 for students in Years 2-6 to participate in the ICAS Assessment Tests developed by the University of NSW. Participation in ICAS assessment is voluntary and entry fees apply.

What is ICAS?

ICAS, is an external, optional comprehensive skills-based program that assesses higher order thinking and problem-solving skills in a range of subject areas.

ICAS will not add extra workload to a student's study or homework regime because ICAS is an assessment they can't study for. It evaluates thinking and problem-solving ability, not memory. ICAS's diagnostic reports will give parents insight into their child's strengths and weaknesses.

Where can I find out more information?

www.eaa.unsw.edu.au

How can my child participate?

If you would like your child to participate, please log onto the UNSW website using the details below:

Your school access code is: **ZGL199**

Your parent page link is: <https://shop.icasassessments.com/pages/pps>

Closing date for purchase: Sunday 25 July.

Dates of Testing sittings will be emailed to registered families.

If you have any further questions, please contact Mrs. Sofatzis via the front office.